Arch A. Moore, Jr. Governor



L. Clark Hansbarger, M.D. Director

State of West Virginia

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CHARLESTON 25305

March 28, 1985

W. L. Claiborne, M.D.
Physician/Director
Fayette County Health Department
202 Church Street
Fayetteville, West Virginia 25840

Dear Dr. Claiborne:

My staff has made an in-depth investigation regarding PCB contamination of the Shaffer Electric Company site at Minden, West Virginia and has made the following conclusions:

1. Upon conferring with EPA regarding their complete sampling and analysis, the information revealed that an imminent and significant public health threat did exist on site by the presence of severely contaminated soils and leaking transformers and capacitors. However, surface samples were taken off site surrounding the property in all directions. The nature of the site did not readily lend itself to any off site migration except through runoff of surface oils and sediments entering the adjacent Arbuckle Creek. The site is located in a flood-plain/flood-prone area which is situated at the bottom of a valley encompassed by mountains on all sides.

In January 1985, after the initial funding request was granted, five downstream soil samples of residential yards samples were taken as a screening precaution to determine if any PCB materials had migrated to the downstream community. This analysis revealed that PCB in concentrations of 11 ppm and 15 ppm were found in four different yards.

In February 1985, a second set of off site samples were taken, following CDC's recommended residential sampling guidelines and the results were in the TRIO0091 of <1 ppm (which is basically non-detectable)

W. L. Claiborne, M.D. March 26, 1985 Page Two

The evidence regarding off site migration does not suggest that an off site hazard to public health exists. This statement is confirmed by CDC through their memorandum dated February 20, 1985, a copy of which is enclosed.

2. The Environmental Health Services Laboratory has monitored the Minden water supply as well as the Arbuckle Public Service District and have found no evidence of PCB contamination (see enclosed sample analysis and results). The Oak Hill Water Company, a subsidiary of the West Virginia Water Company, found
I ppm of PCB contamination in the Minden supply. The Minden Mine Shaft was also <1 ppm, which is basically non-detectable.</pre>

While we realize the concern of the citizens, we do wish to advise you that the Department of Health would consider consulting with anyone who feels they are experiencing illness related to PCBs. However, the evidence does not warrant a health evaluation survey (serum analysis of PCB body levels) on the residents of Minden. This is further confirmed by CDC in their memorandum of February 20, 1985.

Sincerely,

L. Clark Hansbarger, M.D. Director of Health

LCH/bjw

Enclosures

cc: Robert Wheeler
Clarence Christian
Bob Caron
Charles Walters
Concerned Citizens to
save the Plateau

%S ID 33 -117

WES: VIRGINIA STATE HEALTH DEPART....IT WATER ANALYSIS REPORT ORGANICS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES LABORATORY (304) 348-0197

Env.	Health	Servic
	Water	اعا
	Jan.	0 7 198:

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. IPPLY Arbuckle P	SD		Fayette	05001
ESS <u>Minden, WV</u>				850034
	ZIP	DATE OF	ANALYSIS _	JAN. 0 9 1985
T OF COLLECTION Mine	Source Collection box	COLLECTE	D BY <u>Clare</u>	nce T. Christian,
CE: Rock Lick Mine		DATE OF	COLLECTION	January 7, 1985
SHED WATER	RAW WATER X	TIME OF	COLLECTION	10:46 a.m.
ALE SUBMITTED VIA Br	ought to lab by Robert	Frost, Ice pack	<u>(S</u>	
	ANAL	<u>'SIS</u>		•
taminant	Results (mg/l)	Contaminant		Results (mg/i)
rin (0.0002) ¹		Others:		NONE DETECT
dane (0.004)		PCB	·	NONE DETECT
) /chlor (0.1)		-		
aphene (0.005)				
4-D (0.1)			·	
1,5-TP (Silvex) (0.01)				
loroform				
omodichloromethane		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		ППП
promochloromethane				
omoform ,				
cal Trihalomethanes ² (0.10 mg/l) ¹				СШ
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Maximum Contaminant level in parenthesis

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All TUM requite are a evetem average of four samples.

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Water Lab
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R JUPPLY Unpass	Pipe		COUNTY Fayette	
ESS Minden, WV			LABORATORY NUMBER	850033
	ZIP		DATE OF ANALYSIS	JAN. 0 9 1985
IT OF COLLECTION OVE	erflow pipe-spring		COLLECTED BY Clar	ence T. Christian.
RCE: Spring - Post	Office Spring	·····	DATE OF COLLECTION	N <u>January 7, 198</u>
ISHED WATER	RAW WATER X		TIME OF COLLECTION	11:17 a.m.
PLE SUBMITTED VIA	rought to lab by Robert	Frost	, ice packs	·
	ANA	LYSIS		
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dane (0.004)		PC	B	NON BUTELL
t chlor (0.1)		·	•.	
aphene (0.005)				
4-0 (0.1)				
1,5-TP (Silvex) (0.01				
ioroform				
omodichloromethane				
promochloromethane				
omoform			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
(0.10 mg/l) ¹				
VARKS				
1/2		·····		
	•		Á.	R100094
	CHEMIST	rs Rose	encrance-Stratton-H	ayes-Kee-Masin

Maximum Contaminant level in parenthesis

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WEST VIRGINIA STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Water Lab 1412 FEB. 2 879

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		(304) 348-0197

ik supply Arbuckle	PSD PWS ID 3301003	COUNTY Fayette_	COUNTY Fayette		
	copy to Jim Hodges		850382		
Minden, W			•		
TO OF COLLECTION OVE	erflow at source	COLLECTED BY R. F	rost San		
Raw water so	ource	DATE OF COLLECTION	N <u>2-28-85</u>		
ISHED WATER	RAW WATER X	TIME OF COLLECTION	N		
· · · · · ·	Brought to lab by Bob F	rost			
·	ANAL	YSIS			
taminant	Results (mg/l)	Contaminant	Results (mg/l)		
!rin (0.0002) ^I		Others:	MAR TISTS		
idane (0.004)		РСВ	NONE DETE		
Joxychlor (0.1)					
kaphene (0.005)					
4-D (0.1)					
4,5-TP (Silvex) (0.01)					
loroform					
omodichloromethane					
bromochloromethane					
omoform					
tal Trihalomethanes ² (0.10 mg/1) ¹			ШШ		
MARKS					
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WEST VIRGINIA STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WATER ANALYSIS REPORT ORGANICS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES LABORATORY (3G4) 348-0197

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ER SUPPLY WV Water	Minden Area, Oak Hill		· ·
RESS 255 Jones Av	ve. Box 178	LABORATORY	NUMBER <u>850381</u>
Oak Hf11	copy to Jim Hodges ZIP 25901	DATE OF ANA	ALYSISMAR. O 8 1985
NT OF COLLECTIONMinder	Raw Water Line Plan	t Pump COLLECTED E	BY R. Frost. San
RCE: Well		3 3	LECTION 2-28-85
ISHED WATER	RAW WATER X	TIME OF COL	LECTION
	Brought to Tab by Bob F	rost	
	ANALY	<u>'SIS</u>	
taminant	Results (mg/l)	Contaminant	Results (mg/1)
Irin (0.0002) ¹		Others:	
1 2 (0.004)		PCB	NONE DETECT
thoxychlor (0.1)			
caphene (0.005)			
4-0 (0.1)			
4,5-TP (Silvex) (0.01)			
loroform			·
omodichloromethane .		·	
bromochloromethane			
omoform			
tal Trihalomethanes ² (0.10 mg/l) ¹			
MARKS			
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